

EXHIBIT B

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CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

1 CHARLES F. FREUSS (State Bar No. 45783)
2 BRENDA N. BUONAIUTO (State Bar No. 173919)
3 DRINKER BIDDLE & REATH LLP
4 50 Fremont Street, 20th Floor
San Francisco, California 94105
Telephone: (415) 591-7500
Facsimile: (415) 591-7510

5 Attorneys for Defendants
6 ORTHO-MCNEIL PHARMACEUTICAL, INC.
and MCKESSON CORPORATION

7
8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
9 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
10 SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

11 THERESA ABEL, an individual; LISA
12 ALEXANDER, an individual; LISA
ALEXANDER, an individual; NATALIE
13 AMBROSE, an individual; NAOMI
ANDERSON, an individual; RONNIE
14 BANKS, an individual; JENNIFER
BARNES, an individual; SHANANE
15 BARROW, an individual; ANDREA
BREVARD, an individual; MONICA
16 BROWN, an individual; ELIZABETH
BROXTERMAN, an individual; REGIN
17 BRYANT, an individual; LAUREN
BUCHANON, an individual; LINDA
18 CHAMPION, an individual; O'NESECIAN
CLINTON, an individual; RODRINA
19 COLLIER, an individual; DENA COMER,
an individual; LORI CROSS, an individual;
20 KIMBERLY EARLES, an individual;
APRIL FIELDER, an individual; MARY
21 FREY, an individual; SHERRIE GROVE,
an individual; HOLLY HALE, an
22 individual; AUDDRETTA HARRISON, an
individual; TANESHA KING, an
23 individual; VERONICA LIPSCOMB, an
individual; LYNNELL LUMPKINS, an
24 individual; GABRIELA MENA, an
individual; EBONI MITCHELL, an
25 individual; ROCHELLE MORRIS, an
individual; LATANGELA NEWSOME, an
26 individual; DESHA NICKERSON, an
individual; SANDRA NORMAN, an
27 individual; ISABELLA PARKER, an
28 individual; SUZETTE RAMIREZ, an
individual; MONIQUE REED, an

Case No. 06 2551
DECLARATION OF GREG YONKO IN
SUPPORT OF NOTICE OF REMOVAL
AND REMOVAL OF ACTION UNDER
28 U.S.C. § 1441(b) [DIVERSITY]

COPY

DRINKER BIDDLE & REATH LLP
50 Fremont Street, 20th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

377576v1

DECLARATION OF GREG YONKO IN SUPPORT OF NOTICE OF REMOVAL AND REMOVAL CASE NO.

1 individual; GENEVIEVE RENFRO, an
2 individual; JENNIFER ROUSE, an
3 individual; ELIZABETH SMITH, an
4 individual; TJUANA STEWART-MARK,
5 an individual; LATOSHA UNDERWOOD,
6 an individual; COSONDA WEAVER, an
7 individual; SAMANTHA WINCHESTER,
8 an individual;

9 Plaintiffs,

10 v.

11 ORTHO-MCNIL PHARMACEUTICAL,
12 INC., a Delaware Corporation;
13 MCKESSON CORP. and DOES 1-500,
14 inclusive,

15 Defendants.

16 I, GREG YONKO, declare:

17 1. I am Senior Vice President - Purchasing for McKesson Corporation
18 ("McKesson"). I make this Declaration based on my personal knowledge and/or
19 information assembled by employees of McKesson, which I am informed and believe to
20 be true. I would and could competently testify to the matters stated in this Declaration if
21 called as a witness.

22 2. McKesson was and is a Delaware corporation, with its principal place of
23 business in San Francisco, California.

24 3. McKesson was served with the Summons and Complaint in this action on
25 November 15, 2006.

26 4. McKesson consents to the removal of this action.

27 5. McKesson had no involvement in the development or preparation of the
28 prescribing information for Ortho Evra® and did not have any responsibility for the
content of other written warnings concerning Ortho Evra®.

At no time has McKesson had any involvement with the manufacture,
development, or testing of Ortho Evra®.

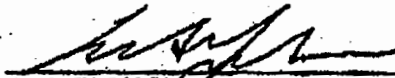
At no time has McKesson had any involvement with the packaging,

ORANGE COUNTY & FOREY LLP
3000 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1500
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

DECLARATION OF GREG YONKO IN SUPPORT OF NOTICE OF REMOVAL AND REMOVAL CASE NO.

1 labeling, advertising, promotion, or marketing of Ortho Evra®.

2 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that
3 the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on December 6, 2006, in San Francisco,
4 California.

5 
6 GREG YONKO

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DeWitt, Riddle & Pugh LLP
60 Francisco Street, 20th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

DECLARATION OF GREG YONKO IN SUPPORT OF NOTICE OF REMOVAL AND REMOVAL CASE NO.

EXHIBIT C

FILED
LOGGED

NOV 27 2002

CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
SEATTLE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

IN RE: PHENYLPROPANOLAMINE
(PPA) PRODUCTS LIABILITY
LITIGATION,

MDL NO. 1407

ORDER DENYING PLAINTIFF'S
MOTION TO REMAND

This document relates to:

Barnett, et al. v. American
Home Products Corp., et al.,
No. C02-423R

THIS MATTER comes before the court on the motion of plain-
tiffs to remand the case to state court in Mississippi. Having
reviewed the papers filed in support of and in opposition to this
motion, the court rules as follows:

I. BACKGROUND

Plaintiffs purchased a variety of over-the-counter drugs
including, but not limited to, products sold under the trade
names "Robitussin," "Alka-Seltzer Plus," "Dimetapp," "Tavist D,"
"BC," "Triaminic," " Contac," "Contrex," and "Equate Tussin CF."
All of these products contained the ingredient phenylpro-
panolamine ("PPA"). The individuals later consumed the medica-
tion and suffered unidentified types of injuries. In June 2001,
plaintiffs filed an amended complaint in Mississippi state court
linking the PPA in the medicine with the injuries sustained.

ORDER
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U.S. DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
SEATTLE

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1 The complaint alleges numerous causes of action against both
 2 manufacturers and distributors of PPA-containing products, as
 3 well as several retail stores that sold those products. One of
 4 the stores named as a defendant, Bill's Dollar Stores, Inc.,
 5 d/b/a Bill's Dollar Store ("Bill's Dollar Store"), is a Missis-
 6 sippi corporation. Two of the six total plaintiffs purchased
 7 PPA-containing products from Bill's Dollar Store.¹

8 Defendants removed the complaint to federal court alleging
 9 that plaintiffs fraudulently joined Bill's Dollar Store. Plain-
 10 tiffs moved to remand to state court. The case was later trans-
 11 ferred to this court as part of a multi-district litigation
 12 ("MDL").

13 II. ANALYSIS

14 A plaintiff cannot defeat federal jurisdiction by fraudu-
 15 lently joining a non-diverse party. As an MDL court sitting in
 16 the Ninth Circuit, this court applies the Ninth Circuit's fraudu-
 17 lent joinder standard to the motion to remand. See, e.g., In re
 18 Diet Drugs Prods. Liab. Litig., 220 F. Supp. 2d 414, 423 (E.D.
 19 Pa. 2002); In re Bridgestone/Firestone, 204 F. Supp. 2d 1149,
 20 1152 n.2 (S.D. Ind. 2002); In re Tobacco/Gov'tal Health Care
 21 Costs Litig., 100 F. Supp. 2d 31, 34 n.1 (D. D.C. 2000); In re

22
 23 ¹ Defendants assert the misjoinder of these plaintiffs'
 24 claims and request that the court sever and deny remand as to the
 25 four plaintiffs who did not purchase any products from Bill's
 26 Dollar Store, or from any other Mississippi store. However,
 because, as discussed below, the court denies remand as to all
 plaintiffs named in this action, the court need not address the
 question of misjoinder at this time.

ORDER

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1 Ford Motor Co. Bronco II Prods. Liab. Litig., 808-991, 1996 U.S.
 2 Dist. LEXIS 6769, at *2-4 (E.D. La. May 16, 1996).² Under this
 3 standard, joinder of a non-diverse party is deemed fraudulent
 4 "[i]f the plaintiff fails to state a cause of action against a
 5 resident defendant, and the failure is obvious according to the
 6 settled rules of the state." Morris v. Princess Cruises, Inc.,
 7 236 F.3d 1061, 1067 (9th Cir. 2001) (quoting McCabe v. General
 8 Food Corp., 811 F.2d 1336, 1339 (9th Cir. 1987)).³

9 The propriety of removal to federal court is determined from
 10 the allegations in the complaint at the time of removal. See
 11 Ritchey v. Union Drug Co., 139 F.3d 1313, 1318 (9th Cir. 1998).
 12 However, in the case of fraudulent joinder, the defendant "is
 13 entitled to present the facts showing the joinder to be fraudu-
 14 lent." Id. (quoting McCabe, 811 F.2d at 1339). See also Morris

15
 16 ²See generally Menowitz v. Brown, 981 F.2d 36, 40-41 (2d
 17 Cir. 1993); In re Korean Airlines Disaster, 829 F.2d 1171, 1174-
 76 (D.C. Cir. 1987).

18 ³However, as a practical matter, application of the Fifth
 19 Circuit's fraudulent joinder standard would not alter the court's
 20 conclusion. See Badon v. RJR Nabisco, Inc., 224 F.3d 382, 393
 21 (5th Cir. 2000) (remand is denied where there is "no reasonable
 22 basis for predicting that plaintiffs might establish liability
 23 ... against the in-state defendants.") For example, recent MDL
 24 courts utilized fraudulent joinder standards similar, and in one
 25 case identical, to the Fifth Circuit's standard in deeming
 26 Mississippi pharmacies and their employees fraudulently joined
 for reasons similar to those expressed in this opinion. See In
re Diet Drugs Prods. Liab. Litig., 229 F. Supp. 2d at 423-24
 (noting that there had been "a pattern of pharmacies being named
 in complaints, but never pursued to judgment, typically being
 voluntarily dismissed at some point after the defendants' ability
 to remove the case has expired"); In re Regulon Prods. Liab.
Litig., 183 F. Supp. 2d 272, 279 & n.3, 288-92 (S.D.N.Y. 2001).

1 236 F.3d at 1067-68 (citing Cavallini v. State Farm Mut. Auto.
 2 Ins. Co., 44 F.3d 256, 263 (5th Cir. 1995) for the proposition
 3 that the court may "pierc[e] the pleadings" and consider
 4 "summary judgment-type evidence.")

5 Defendants allege that plaintiffs fraudulently joined Bill's
 6 Dollar Store, while plaintiffs claim the existence of legitimate
 7 causes of action against Bill's Dollar Store, including products
 8 liability, negligence, misrepresentation, and implied warranty
 9 claims. The parties also argue as to the relevance of a bank-
 10 ruptcy petition filed by Bill's Dollar Store prior to the filing
 11 of this suit.

12 A. Products Liability

13 The complaint contains failure to warn and design defect
 14 allegations pursuant to the Mississippi Products Liability Act.
 15 Miss. Code Ann. § 11-1-63. Under the Products Liability Act,
 16 plaintiff must show that at the time the product left the control
 17 of the manufacturer or seller, it was defective in failing to
 18 contain adequate warnings or instructions, and/or was designed in
 19 a defective manner. Miss. Code Ann. § 11-1-63 (a)(1)(2)-(3).
 20 Plaintiff must also show that the manufacturers and sellers knew,
 21 or in light of reasonably available knowledge or the exercise of
 22 reasonable care should have known, about the danger that caused
 23 the alleged damage. Miss. Code Ann. § 11-1-63 (c)(1), (f)(1).
 24

25 ⁴See also Huff v. Shopsmith, Inc., 786 So.2d 383, 387 (Miss.
 26 2001) ("With the adoption of 11-1-63, common law strict liability,
 as laid out in State Stove Mfg. Co. v. Hodges, 189 So.2d 113

ORDER

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1 Plaintiffs allege in the complaint that "defendants" or "all
2 defendants" knew or should have known of dangers associated with
3 PFA. Moreover, plaintiffs specifically aver this knowledge or
4 reason to know on the part of the retailer defendants, including
5 Bill's Dollar Store. However, the court finds that no factual
6 basis can be drawn from the complaint that Bill's Dollar Store
7 had knowledge or reason to know of any dangers allegedly associ-
8 ated with PFA.

9 First, the complaint utilizes the plural "defendants" in a
10 number of allegations that one could not reasonably interpret to
11 include Bill's Dollar Store. See, e.g., *Louis v. Hyatt-Averat*
12 *Pharm., Inc.*, No. 5:00CV1021X, slip op. at 5-9 (S.D. Miss. Sep.
13 25, 2000) (finding products liability allegations lodged against
14 "defendants" conclusory where there was no factual support for
15 conclusion that Mississippi pharmacies had knowledge or reason to
16 know of alleged dangers associated with various diet drugs).⁹

17
18 (*Miss.* 1966), is no longer the authority on the necessary
19 elements of a products liability action.¹⁰

20 ⁹See also *in re Diet Drug Prods. Liab. Litig.*, 220 F. Supp.
21 2d at 424 (finding complaints, including failure to warn,
22 negligence, breach of warranty, and strict liability claims,
23 devoid of specific allegations against Mississippi pharmacies and
24 "filled instead with general statements levied against all
25 defendants, which most properly can be read as stating claims
26 against drug manufacturers."); *in re Risperidone Prods. Liab.*
27 *Litig.*, 133 F. Supp. 2d at 291 (finding improper joinder in case
28 where Mississippi pharmacies were lumped in with manufacturers
29 and acts alleged, including failure to warn, breach of warranty,
30 and fraud, were attributed to "defendants" generally, but
31 never connected to the pharmacies); accord *Badon*, 224 F.3d at
32 391-93 ("While the amended complaint does often use the word

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1 For example, the complaint describes "defendants" as members of
 2 the Non-Prescription Drug Manufacturers Association ("NDMA").
 3 Through this association, "defendants" purportedly participated
 4 in numerous discussions relating to the safety of PPA over the
 5 past two decades, had representatives sit on the NDMA PPA Task
 6 Force, and funded relevant studies. In other words, plaintiffs,
 7 in significant part, demonstrate "defendants'" knowledge as to
 8 risks allegedly posed by PPA through activities engaged in by
 9 manufacturer defendants alone.

10 Indeed, while "defendants" are alleged to have been aware or
 11 to have had responsibility for awareness of numerous scientific
 12 journal articles, incident reports, medical textbooks, and other
 13 reports containing information as to risks of PPA consumption,
 14 general medical practitioners are excluded from this awareness
 15 and described as being not "fully informed." The complaint
 16 supplies no factual support for a conclusion that a dollar store
 17 possessed medical and scientific knowledge beyond that possessed
 18 by medical practitioners.

19 Second, the complaint specifically lays the responsibility
 20 for allegedly concealing dangers posed by PPA on the manufacturer
 21 defendants. For example, the complaint alleges that the manufac-
 22 turer defendants concealed material facts regarding PPA through
 23 product packaging, labeling, advertising, promotional campaigns
 24

25 "defendants," frequently it is evident that such usage could not
 26 be referring to the "Tobacco Wholesalers." (Finding conspiracy
 allegations against Louisiana defendants entirely general).

ORDER

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1 and materials, and other methods. This allegation directly
 2 undermines and contradicts the idea that Bill's Dollar Store had
 3 knowledge or reason to know of alleged defects. See, e.g.,
 4 Louis, slip op. at 4-5 (finding complaint's "major theme" to
 5 consist of the "manufacturers' intentional concealment of the
 6 true risks of the drug(s), coupled with dissemination through
 7 various media of false and misleading information of the safety
 8 of the drug(s) at issue, [which belied] any suggestion of knowl-
 9 edge, or reason to know by [the] resident defendants." Cf. In re
 10 Rezulin Products Litig., 133 F. Supp. 2d 272, 290 (S.D.N.Y.
 11 2001) (finding Mississippi pharmacies facing failure to warn
 12 claims fraudulently joined where "the theory underlying the
 13 complaints [was] that the manufacturer defendants hid the dangers
 14 of Rezulin from plaintiffs, the public, physicians, distributors
 15 and pharmacists -- indeed from everyone.")

16 In sum, the court concludes that one could not reasonably
 17 read the complaint to support the idea that the retailer defen-
 18 dants had knowledge or reason to know of any dangers allegedly
 19 associated with EPA. Indeed, reading the complaint as a whole,
 20 this allegation reveals itself as directed towards the manufac-
 21 turer defendants alone. As such, the court finds that plaintiffs
 22 fail to state a products liability cause of action against Bill's
 23 Dollar Store.⁶

24
 25 ⁶ The complaint once alludes to an "alternative" breach of
 26 express warranty claim under the Products Liability Act. See
 Miss. Code Ann. § 11-1-63 (a)(1)(4) (requiring a showing that the

1 **B. Negligence and Misrepresentation**

2 The complaint alleges negligence and misrepresentation by
3 Bill's Dollar Store. A negligence cause of action also requires
4 a showing of knowledge or reason to know on the part of the
5 seller. See, e.g., R. Clinton Constr. Co. v. Bryant & Reaves,
6 194 F. Supp. 835, 851 (N.D. Miss. 1977) ("The rule is well
7 settled that in order to fasten liability upon a party for
8 negligence, it must be shown by a preponderance of the evidence
9 that he knew or through the exercise of reasonable care should
10 have known that his selection of a [product] would cause damage
11 to his customer.") A misrepresentation cause of action requires

12
13 seller breached an express warranty or failed to conform to other
14 express factual representations upon which the plaintiff relied).
15 However, the products liability allegations go on to touch solely
16 upon failure to warn and design defect claims. Because the
17 complaint lacks any factual basis for support of a breach of
18 express warranty claim against Bill's Dollar Store, the court
19 also finds this bare allegation insufficient to support a claim.

20
21 "According to Louisiana, slip op. at 3-4 & n.3 ("[Knowledge, or a
22 reason to know, is also a necessary requisite for any claim of
23 failure to warn or negligence that a plaintiff might undertake to
24 assert extraneous to a claim under the Products Liability Act
25 itself (assuming solely for the sake of argument that such a
26 claim could exist)."); Cadillac Corp. v. Moore, 320 So.2d 361,
365 (Miss. 1975) (discussing negligence in "vendor/purchaser"
context and stating that "fault on the part of a defendant so as
to render him liable is to be found in action or nonaction,
accompanied by knowledge, actual or implied, of the probable
result of his conduct.") Cf. Moore v. Memorial Hosp. of
Gulfport, 825 So.2d 658, 664-66 (Miss. 2002) (extending "learned
intermediary" doctrine to pharmacists in case involving
prescription drug, and holding no actionable negligence claim
could exist against a pharmacy unless a plaintiff indisputably
informed the pharmacy of health problems which contraindicated
the use of the drug in question, or the pharmacist filled

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1 a plaintiff to show:

2 (1) a representation; (2) its falsity; (3) its materi-
 3 ality; (4) the speaker's knowledge of its falsity or
 4 ignorance of its truth; (5) the speaker's intent that
 5 the representation should be acted upon by the hearer
 6 and in the manner reasonably contemplated; (6) the
 7 hearer's ignorance of its falsity; (7) the hearer's
 8 reliance on its truth; (8) the hearer's right to rely
 9 thereon; and (9) the hearer's consequent and proximate
 10 injury.

11 Johnson v. Parks-Davis, 114 F. Supp. 2d 522, 525 (S.D. Miss.
 12 2000) (citing Allen v. Man Tools, Inc., 671 So.2d 636, 642 (Miss.
 13 1996)).

14 Again, the court finds that the general and contradictory
 15 allegations in the complaint do not support the existence of any
 16 knowledge or reason to know on the part of Bill's Dollar Store to
 17 support a negligence cause of action. The court finds the
 18 complaint similarly bereft of any factual support for the idea
 19 that Bill's Dollar Store made any misrepresentations whatsoever
 20 to plaintiffs regarding the PPA-containing products. See, e.g.,
 21 Johnson, 114 F. Supp. 2d at 525 ("Suffice it to say that Plain-
 22 tiffs have no proof . . . that any of the named [Mississippi]
 23 representatives made any representations directly to any of the
 24 plaintiffs. Thus, none of the plaintiffs was the 'hearer' of any
 25 of the sales representatives' alleged misrepresentations.");
 26 finding plaintiffs had no cause of action for misrepresentation).
 27 Instead, as discussed above, the complaint attributes this

28 prescriptions in quantities inconsistent with the recommended
 29 dosage guidelines).

1 behavior to the manufacturing defendants alone. As such, the
 2 court also finds that plaintiffs fail to state negligence and
 3 misrepresentation causes of action against Bill's Dollar Store.

4 C. Implied Warranty

5 The complaint also alleges that Bill's Dollar Store breached
 6 implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for particular
 7 purpose. See Miss. Code Ann. §§ 75-2-314, 315. The complaint
 8 accuses "defendants" of breaching the implied warranty of mer-
 9 chantability in failing to adequately label containers and
 10 packages containing PPA, and because the products sold failed to
 11 conform to promises or affirmations of facts made on the contain-
 12 ers or labels. See Miss. Code Ann. § 75-2-314 (2)(e)-(f). The
 13 complaint accuses both manufacturers and sellers of breaching the
 14 implied warranty of fitness for particular purpose where they had
 15 reason to know of the particular use of the products, and the
 16 purchasers relied on the sellers' skill or judgment in selecting
 17 and furnishing suitable and safe products. See Miss. Code Ann. §
 18 75-2-315.

19 In order to recover for breach of implied warranty, a buyer
 20 "must within a reasonable time after he discovers or should have
 21 discovered any breach notify the seller of breach or be barred
 22 from any remedy." Miss. Code Ann. § 75-2-607 (3)(a); accord C.R.
 23 Daniels, Inc. v. Takco Mfg. Co., 541 F. Supp. 205, 210-11 (S.D.
 24 Miss. 1986); Gast v. Rogers-Binome Chevrolet, 585 So. 2d 725,
 25 730-31 (Miss. 1991). Here, the complaint contains no indication
 26 that plaintiffs provided Bill's Dollar Store with any notice as

ORDER

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1 to an alleged breach of warranty prior to the institution of this
2 lawsuit.

3 Additionally, with respect to the merchantability claim, the
4 complaint contains no factual support for a conclusion that
5 Bill's Dollar Store was in any way involved with the labeling
6 and/or packaging of the products at issue. Instead, the com-
7 plaint alleges that the manufacturer defendants concealed mate-
8 rial facts regarding PPA through product packaging and labeling.

9 The court likewise finds plaintiffs' fitness for particular
10 purpose allegation insufficient. "Mississippi does not recognize
11 an implied warranty of fitness for a particular purpose when the
12 good is purchased for the ordinary purpose of a good of that
13 kind." *Farris v. Coleman Co.*, 121 F. Supp. 2d 1014, 1018 (N.D.
14 Miss. 2000) (fitness-for-particular-purpose claim failed where
15 plaintiff purchased cooler to keep food and beverages cold - the
16 ordinary purpose for which a cooler is used). Here, plaintiffs
17 attested that they purchased PPA-containing products to remedy
18 their "cold, flu, sinus and/or allergy symptoms" - the ordinary
19 purpose of these medications.

20 Therefore, for the reasons stated above, the court finds
21 that plaintiffs fail to state implied warranty causes of action
22 against Bill's Dollar Store.

23 D. Bankruptcy

24 Bill's Dollar Store filed a bankruptcy petition in February
25 2001, several months prior to the filing of plaintiffs' com-
26 plaint. The filing of the bankruptcy petition operates as a stay

1 on judicial or other proceedings brought against Bill's Dollar
 2 store that were or could have commenced prior to the commencement
 3 of the bankruptcy proceeding. See 11 U.S.C. § 362(a); In re
 4 Caiun Elec. Power Co.-Op, Inc., 185 F.3d 446, 457 (5th Cir. 1999).

5 Plaintiffs argue that the automatic stay poses no barrier to
 6 relief given that they were unaware of the bankruptcy petition at
 7 the time they filed their complaint, and because they anticipate
 8 that the Bankruptcy Court will agree to their pending request to
 9 lift the stay. However, whether or not plaintiffs knew of the
 10 petition and whether or not the stay may later be lifted, the
 11 fact remains that, at the time plaintiffs filed their complaint,
 12 the stay operated to prohibit their lawsuit. As noted above, the
 13 court determines jurisdiction based on the claims as stated at
 14 the time of removal. As such, the court finds the existence of
 15 the stay at the time of filing serves as an additional reason to
 16 deny remand of this matter to state court. Cf. Ritchey, 139 F.3d
 17 at 1319-20 (denying remand where the statute of limitations had
 18 expired at the time plaintiff filed the complaint).

19 III. CONCLUSION

20 The court concludes that plaintiffs fail to state a cause of
 21 action against the only non-diverse defendant, and that the

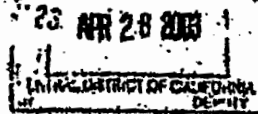
22
 23 Unlike in a number of other cases transferred to this MDL,
 24 the defendants here did not supply the court with any summary
 25 judgment-type evidence to establish the retailer defendant's
 26 fraudulent joinder. However, the court nonetheless finds that a
 plain reading of the complaint does not allow a conclusion that
 plaintiffs state a cause of action against Bill's Dollar Store.

1 failure is obvious according to the settled rules of Mississippi.
2 As such, the court finds Bill's Dollar Store fraudulently joined.
3 and DENIES plaintiff's motion to remand the case to the state
4 courts of Mississippi.

5 DATED at Seattle, Washington this 26th day of November,
6 2002.

7 
8 BARBARA JACOBS ROTHERSTEIN
9 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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EXHIBIT D



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
WESTERN DIVISION

In re REZULIN LITIGATION

CASE NO. CV 03-1647-R(RZ-x)

JACKIE BARLOW; CARMA DEKOVEN;
ERNESTINE DELAFONT, ZOE EGGER,
MUKARVITZ, and SAMUEL
GODBOULDT,

**[PROPOSED] ORDER
DENYING PLAINTIFFS'
MOTION FOR REMAND**

Plaintiffs,

v.

WARNER-LAMBERT CO.; PFIZER INC.;
JERROLD OLEFSKY; MCKESSON CORP.,
et al.

Defendants.

Defendants removed this action from state court to this Court alleging diversity jurisdiction. Defendants asserted that Jerrold Olefsky and McKesson Corp., both of whom are California residents, were fraudulently joined. Plaintiffs moved to remand to state court. The motions came on for hearing by the Court on April 21, 2003.

Having considered the motions and other documents in support of and in opposition to the motions, having heard the arguments of counsel, and being fully advised in the matter, the Court denies the motion.

The Court finds that Dr. Jerrold Olefsky ("Dr. Olefsky"), a patent-holder and clinical investigator, owed no legal duty to any of the plaintiffs, and, therefore, there is no possibility that the plaintiffs can prove a cause of action against Dr. Olefsky. Thus, Dr. Olefsky must be disregarded for purposes of determining federal diversity

1 jurisdiction.

2 The Court further finds that there is no possibility that plaintiffs could prove a
3 cause of action against McKesson, an entity which distributed this FDA-approved
4 medication to pharmacists in California. Pursuant to comment k of the Restatement
5 (Second) of Torts Section 402A and California law following comment k, a
6 distributor of a prescription drug is not subject to strict liability.

7 Accordingly, this Court has diversity jurisdiction over each of these actions.
8 The motion to remand is denied.

9 IT IS SO ORDERED.

10 Dated: April 28, 2003

11
12 MANUEL L. REAL

13 MANUEL L. REAL
14 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

15 Submitted by:

16 O'DONNELL & SHAEFFER LLP
17 633 West Fifth Street, Suite 1700
18 Los Angeles, California 90071
19 Telephone: (213) 532-2000
20 Facsimile: (213) 532-2020

21 KAYE SCHOLER LLP
22 1999 Avenue of the Stars
23 Los Angeles, California 90067
24 Telephone: (310) 788-1000
25 Facsimile: (310) 788-1200

26 By: Robert Barnes
27 Robert Barnes
28 Attorneys for Defendants
WARNER-LAMBERT COMPANY and PFIZER INC.

EXHIBIT E

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
WESTERN DIVISION

In re REZULIN LITIGATION

CASE NO. CV 03-1643-R(RZx)

DIANE SKINNER; and DIANE YBARRA,
Plaintiffs,

**PROPOSED ORDER
DENYING PLAINTIFFS'
MOTION FOR REMAND**

vs.
WARNER-LAMBERT CO.; PFIZER INC.;
JERROLD OLEFSKY; McKESSON CORP.,
et al.

Defendants.

KAYE SCHOLER LLP

Defendants removed this action from state court to this Court alleging diversity jurisdiction. Defendants asserted that Jerrold Olefsky and McKesson Corp., both of whom are California residents, were fraudulently joinded. Plaintiffs moved to remand to state court. The motions came on for hearing by the Court on April 21, 2003.

Having considered the motions and other documents in support of and in opposition to the motions, having heard the arguments of counsel, and being fully advised in the matter, the Court denies the motion.

The Court finds that Dr. Jerrold Olefsky ("Dr. Olefsky"), a patent-holder and clinical investigator, owed no legal duty to any of the plaintiffs, and, therefore, there is no possibility that the plaintiffs can prove a cause of action against Dr. Olefsky. Thus, Dr. Olefsky must be disregarded for purposes of determining federal diversity jurisdiction.

Discovered

(PROPOSED) ORDER

1 The Court further finds that there is no possibility that plaintiffs could prove a
 2 cause of action against McKesson, an entity which distributed this FDA-approved
 3 medication to pharmacists in California. Pursuant to comment k of the Restatement
 4 (Second) of Torts Section 402A and California law following comment k, a
 5 distributor of a prescription drug is not subject to strict liability.

6 Accordingly, this Court has diversity jurisdiction over each of these actions.
 7 The motion to remand is denied.

8 IT IS SO ORDERED.

9 Dated: April 23, 2003.

10 MANUEL L. REAL

11 MANUEL L. REAL
 12 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

13 Submitted by:

14 O'DONNELL & SHAEFFER LLP
 15 633 West Fifth Street, Suite 1700
 16 Los Angeles, California 90071
 Telephone: (213) 532-2000
 Facsimile: (213) 532-2020

17 KAYE SCHOLER LLP
 18 1999 Avenue of the Stars
 Los Angeles, California 90067
 Telephone: (310) 788-1000
 Facsimile: (310) 788-1200

19 By: Robert Barnes

20 Robert Barnes
 21 Attorneys for Defendants
 22 WARNER-LAMBERT COMPANY and PFIZER INC.

KAYE SCHOLER LLP